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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

Published quarterly, sent free to all paid up members
Issue deadlines and ad rates as listed below:

Jan. Feb. Mar. - Copy deadline, January 1st.
Apr. May June - Copy deadline, April 1st.
July Aug. Sep. - Copy deadline, July 1st.
Oct. Nov. Dec. - Copy deadline, October 1st.

AD RATES

1/3 page $ 3.50	53 spaces across	14 lines down
1/2 page $ 5.00	53 spaces across	21 lines down
Full page $ 10.00	53 spaces across	43 lines down

We welcome contributions of stories and articles but are unable to purchase them.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year is coming to a close and naturally a new one will be starting soon. This seems a good time to review what the AHS has done in the past year and to plan for 1970. To me, 1969 was a good year in many ways. In the intangible area all chapters continued to function well and to make progress with new members, more hybridizers etc. The national officers and board of directors have worked hard and effectively on our old problems as well as developing new ideas. It is also apparent to me that our members, especially here in Florida are getting together socially and in much more fellowship and friendliness. This has always been an important part of AHS membership - making new friendships and strengthening old ones.

In the tangible area, every chapter improved its show over last year with the result hibiscus are becoming more widely known and popular all over the State and to our visitors. We can be proud of our shows this year. The D. U. Donaldson Memorial Fund has added impetus to our hybridization program and effectively improved the quality of the cultivars now being shown. Another thing which has made me happy is the wonderful attendance at the Board Meetings and at the Annual Meeting. Mere members are not all important, but the interest and dedication which impels people to come to these meetings shows a healthy and progressive organization.

Looking forward to next year we need to continue and improve the high quality of our shows. They are where the public image of the AHS is made. The Show and Judging Rules and some of our show procedures are being given careful study by the Committee, with a view of making them more responsive to the wishes of the members. First Vice-President Golby has given many hours of thought and effort to solve the more immediate problems raised by the Rules. The results will come to light in the Spring of 1970.

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